Issues to Consider As We Begin the Year 2001

Ikuo Koike, President

We have ushered in the 21st century, and as we stand at the beginning of a new age, JACET faces new challenges and opportunities for growth.

At the end of the last century, we had the privilege to host AILA '99 from August 1-6. Significant progress was made at the subsequent Asian Conference on Language Education Policy. I am extremely honored to have been able to coordinate these conventions, and am grateful for the dedication and long hours of effort of all who organized and participated. This includes time-consuming post-conference discussions and activities which resulted in the serious task of compiling a congress report and the publication of a CD-ROM and a special volume entitled "Selected Papers from AILA '99 Tokyo".

AILA provided us with an opportunity to reach out to the world, and have the world come to Japan. The deliberations and international exchange which took place at the convention will benefit educators and scholars in Japan and nations throughout the world.

As we face a new millennium, Japan is seeing a decline in its university-age population. Many universities and colleges face the danger of downsizing or closing down. One of JACET's roles is to debate possible measures to avert as many of these closures as possible. JACET is now conducting a nation-wide survey of universities, and is analyzing pedagogical systems and working to ascertain the present situation. The first stage of the analysis has ended, and we are now launching a new study on individual educators and researchers. We ask for your cooperation in completing the survey, so that JACET can obtain an accurate picture of the status quo, and propose and implement measures to improve English education and foreign language education in Japan.

Various pending issues need to be addressed. One crucial issue is improving the aptitude of English teachers at all stages of the education spectrum, and motivating language students. Japan is at a critical stage of development. It needs to educate students who will be able to freely use language as a means by which they function at the global level. The status of English education is still unclear at the
elementary level. At middle schools and high schools, students are now required to learn four English terms, and the size of textbooks is being reduced. Such measures nudge opportunities to educate potential international players.

Another disturbing move is the draining of liberal arts departments at many universities, resulting in the dispersal of English teachers throughout various other departments.

As universities and colleges meet with financial pressure, foreign language teachers face the possibility of losing their jobs, and being replaced by part-time teachers. We need to re-consider the basic principles of foreign language education, and clarify what needs to be done. JACET needs to meet the needs of its members, and address the issues at hand.

JACET must restructure and adapt to the needs of the new century. I hope that all JACET members will participate in the long and laborious, yet promising path before us.

Report from the JACET Office
Hironi Kobayashi, Secretary General

JACET activities from April, 2000 to March, 2001
Our main activities were as follows.

1. Annual Convention
The 39th Annual Convention was held from November 3-5 at the Oitaika University.

2. Chapter Conventions
Each chapter held its own convention on the following dates: Tohoiku: June 10, Hokkaido: June 17, Oita: June 10, Kama: June 10, Chugoku-Shikoku: June 4, Kyushu-Okinawa: November 3-5.

3. Regular Publications
JACET Bulletin No.32-33 and JACET News No.153-157 were published.

4. JACET FD Seminar
The JACET Faculty Development Seminar was held on December 23 at Waseda University. The theme of the seminar was "Computer and English Language Education".

5. JACET English Teaching Seminar
The 10th English Teaching Seminar was held at Toyo University on March 29. The theme was "Teaching How to Apply Basic English Skills".

6. JACET Monthly Meetings
Six regular monthly meetings and one special meeting were held at Tokyo Denki University.

(7) International Exchange Programs

International Exchange Program

Prof. Yoji Takeda and Prof. Masahito Toyota represented JACET at the Annual RELC Seminar. Prof. Komuro Murata attended the IATEFL Conference. Prof. Mikio Namoto, Prof. Masayoshi Kinoshita, Prof. Hideo Oka, and Prof. Yukio Uno attended the International KATE Conference. Prof. Hironi Kobayashi attended the TESOL Conference.

Chapter News

[Hokkaido Chapter Report]

1. Annual Chapter Convention
The 2000 convention was held at Hokkaido University on June 17. At the general meeting, the accounts for the 1999 fiscal year and the budget for 2000 were submitted and approved.

After the meeting, papers were presented by two members: "Second Language Vocabulary Acquisition Strategies Used by Senior High School Students" by Norihiko Takachi (graduate student at Tsukuba University) and "Listening Activities through Films in English" by Takeshi Kobayashi (Gurubun University).

In the second session, there was a symposium entitled "What Next? What to do!" - The Future of College English Education in Japan" organized by Masahito Murai, Tokai University and Atsuhiko Aoki. The symposium was inaugurated by the presenters' enthusiastic reports on this issue: Shoichi Ishikawa (Shin Women's University), Yuko Nomoto (Nihon University Minami High School) and Ayako Saito (Sapporo International University). Participants enjoyed a heated discussion between the enthusiastic panelists and the active audience.

2. Lecture Meetings
The following lecture meetings were held this year.

Date: Dec.9(Sat.) 13:30-14:30
Venue: Fuji Women's University

Lecture: Speaker: Takashi Higuchi (Tokyo Gakuen Junior College)
Topic: Proposals to Renew College Education in Japan, Based on My 44 years Teaching English

Speaker: Yukio Uno (Hokkaido Gakuo University)
Topic: KATE 2000 Report: English Education in Asia

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Speaker: Nobuki Hayashi (Iwamizawa Higashi High School)
Topic: Threshold Hypothesis and EFL Reading
Speaker: Mark Irwin (Hokkaido Univ.)
Topic: It Shouldn't Have to Be That Way: Teaching Greek Root Based English Vocabulary

(3) Preparations for the 2001 JACET Annual Convention
In the year 2001, the JACET Hokkaido Chapter will organize the 2001 JACET Annual Convention at Fuji Women's University, Sapporo, Hokkaido, on September 16-18. Preparations for a successful convention are already well underway. We ask all members of JACET to attend, participate in, and enjoy the 1st JACET Convention of the 21st century! (Tadashi Bannai)

【Tokyo Chapter Report】
Annual Convention
The annual convention of 2000 was held at Tohoku Gakuin University on June 10. At the general meeting, accounts for the 1999 fiscal year and the budget for 2000 were proposed and approved. After the general meeting Prof. Ikko Koike (Meikai Univ., President of JACET) gave a special lecture entitled "Proposals to the Prime Minister: Reforms of Foreign Language Education in Japan." The special lecture was followed by another special lecture ("Advanced CALL--Person-Centered Learning is Now Possible") given by Prof. Chisato Funaya (Jikei Univ.). Next on the agenda, Prof. Hikaru Murakawa (Univ. of Aizu) organized a symposium on the role of computers in teaching English. Professor Murakawa and two panelists discussed this issue from different perspectives:

Tom Orr (Univ. of Aizu) "Computer Applications for University Writing Classess";
Mark Freimuth (Univ. of Aizu) "On-Line Chat Applications"

Hikaru Murakawa (Univ. of Aizu) "Teaching Pronunciation on Computer Workstations"

Special Lecture in Akita
The Tokyo Chapter invited special lecturer Dr. David Ingram (Driffield Univ. Australia) for a meeting on August 19 at Akita University. The title of his lecture was "Language Proficiency Assessment and its Application to Communicative Language Teaching."

Study Meetings
The study meetings were held and five presentations were given by members of the Tokyo Chapter:

(1) Yumi Sato (Grad. School, Tohoku Gakuin Univ.) "On Errors in Using Articles" (April 8 at Tohoku Gakuin Univ.)

(2) Miyako Seki (Miyagi Gakuin Women's College) "How to Make Use of Tolkien's Mr. Bisto in College English Classes" (April 8 at Tohoku Gakuin Univ.)

(3) Megumi Sugiura (Tokyo Bunka Gakuin Univ.) "Processing of Anaphoric Devices and Metacognitive Monitoring: Reviews of Related Studies" (October 14 at Tokyo Bunka Gakuin Univ.)

(4) Motoo Kubo (Miyagi National College of Technology) "Procedures and Prospects in Developing English Teaching Material" (December 9 at Tohoku Gakuin Univ.)

(5) Taneo Takamachi (Hiroshi Univ.) "New Trends in English Education and Research" (December 9 at Tohoku Gakuin Univ.)

Newsletter
JACET-Tokyo Newsletter 22 was issued in February, 2001. It includes reports of special lectures and presentations.

(Hitoshi Murakami)

【Chubu Chapter Report】
Annual Chapter Convention
The Chubu Chapter Convention of the year 2000 was held at Shizuoka University on June 10th. At the General Meeting, the accounts for the 1999 fiscal year and the budget for 2000 were submitted and approved. Also the new Chapter executives were appointed and approved. Prof. Shozo Yanamaka (Nagoya Women's Univ.) assumed the office of Chapter President, taking the place of Prof. Mieko Sugawara (Gifu Women's College).

In the morning session, nine papers were presented in three different rooms. In the afternoon, Prof. Hideo Oka (Tokyo Univ. Graduate School) gave a special lecture entitled "Bilingualism and the Ability to Learn Foreign Languages." This was followed by a symposium on "English Teaching of the 21st Century -- Objectives and Evaluation."

The panelists were Steve Rose (Kwansei Gakuin Univ.), Masaki Noguchi (Tokyo Univ. of Foreign
Two lecture meetings were held: (1) George Yule (Former Prof. at Louisiana State Univ.) and Maryam Overstreet (Prof. at the Univ. of Hawaii) gave lectures on the same topic, "Developing Pragmatic Awareness in English?" on September 21st at Nagoya Univ. of Foreign Studies; and (2) Katsunori Ito (Prof. at Kanazawa Univ.) gave a lecture on "Psycholinguistics and Foreign Language Teaching — With the Emphasis on Children's Foreign Language Acquisitions — " on October 14th at Nanzan Junior College. The former was under the auspices of Nagoya Univ. of Foreign Studies and the latter of Nanzan Junior College.

Tokai Gakuen Univ. hosted a study meeting on December 9th. Swao Thida (Prof. at Tokai Gakuen Univ., a member of the Poliness Studies SIG) gave a talk on "Forays of Address in English and Japanese - Functions in Discourse-".

Executive Committee Meetings and Steering Committee Meeting

Five Executive Committee Meetings took place on May 6th at Shizuoka Univ., July 3rd at Nagoya Women’s Univ., October 18th at Nanzan Junior College, December 9th at Tokai Gakuen Univ. and January 12th at Nagoya Women’s Univ. One Steering Committee Meeting for the Annual Chiba Chapter Convention was held on May 5th at Shizuoka Univ.

Publications

JACET Chiba Newsletter, No.3 (March, 2000) and No. 4 (Dec. 2000) were published.

[Keiko Goto]

[Kansai Chapter Report]

Our main activities since April 2000 include the following:

1. Lecture Meeting (copresented by the British Council)
   Date: May 13, 2000
   Place: Shiraz Hall

2. Peter Stockwell (Univ. of Nottingham), "FutureTalk: One Small Step Towards a Chronolinguistics"
   Date: June 10, 2000
   Place: Bakkyo Univ. (Mitsukazumi Campus)

(1) Workshop: "Recent Linguistic Study and English Grammar" Michiko Yaguchi (graduate student at Kobe Mus. Univ. of Foreign Studies), Hiroyuki Takah (Kinki Univ.), Junichi Murata (Kobe Mus. Univ. of Foreign Studies)

(2) Presentations: Hiroko Okabe (graduate student at Kobe Mus. Univ. of Foreign Studies) "Complimentary Styles among Women and Men - A Contrastive Study between Japanese and English"; Toshiohri Fukaya (graduate student at Bakkyo Univ.) "How do Students Understand Black Culture in the Cross-cultural Education Class?"; Noromi Haraishi (graduate student at Kyoto Univ.) "How to Develop Critical Language Consciousness"; Kinko Tanmatsuki (lecturer at Kobe Univ.) "Vocabulary Knowledge of Technical English of Students Majoring in Medicine and the Science of Nursing"; Mokoto Inuta (graduate student at Osaka Univ.) "Comparative Corpus of English Movies and the Study of Spoken English"; Kyoko Kobayashi (graduate student at Bakkyo Univ.) "A Study of the Temporal Conjunction since"

(3) Symposium: "New Directions in College English Education"

Chair: Yasuyuki Ohnuki (The Univ. of Shiga Pref.), Maruichi: Kanayoshi Sannomoto (Bakkyo Univ.), Fumio Taketani (Arii Univ.), Takuo Fujii (Kansai Gaidai Univ.), Takako Kanzaki (Kwansei Gakuen Univ.)

JACET English Phonetics Workshop
   Date: June 24-25, 2000
   Place: Kyoto International Conference Hall

Sponsored by Maruzen/Prentice Education, the British Council
"English Phonetics: Characteristics of Connected Speech"

June 24:

(1) Lecture: "Dictionary Pronunciation and Connected Speech", Prof. John C. Wells (University College London)

(2) Practice: Prof. John C. Wells, Prof. Jane Setter (Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ.)

(3) Lecture: "How to Approach English Pronunciation: A New Perspective", Prof. Kazuhiko Matsumoto (Univ. of Tokyo)

June 25:

(1) Lecture: "Stress-timing, Syllable-timing and Mode-timing: Rhythm in English Pronunciation", Prof. Jane Setter

(2) Practice: Prof. John C. Wells, Prof. Jane Setter

(3) Q & A Session: Prof. John C. Wells, Prof. Jane Setter
4. Fall Convention
Date: Oct. 14, 2000
Place: Kikuzan Junior College

(1) Workshop: "Reading Literature in the ESL/EFL Context", Richard Day (Univ. of Hawaii), Harumi Inhino (Osaka International Univ. for Women), Shinji Matsumoto (Ryukoku Univ.)

(2) Presentation: Hiromi Kimoto (Akashi Kosen), Mayumi Hamada (Ryutoku Kagaku Univ.) "Silent Movie Approach to Silent Students"; Hiroki Miyake (graduate student at Kyoto Univ.), "Strategic Use of Instruction in Conversational English"; Mitsuko Kuramoto (Lecturer at Kikuzan Univ.), Yuko Matsamura (Lecturer at Kikuzan Univ.), Shinsuke Yoshida (Senshu Univ.), Chiji Noto (Soci Univ.), Hiroko Yoshida (Senshu Univ.), Shuske Kato (Kawasaki Gakuen Univ.) "The Co-relation between Word Decoding Skills and Sentence Processing in ESL Reading"; Hideo Hihiko (Emeritus Prof. Of Kikuzan Junior College) "A Comparative Study of the Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English and COBUILD Corpus" (3) Symposium: "Some Suggestions Linguistic Theories Give to English Language Education", Chair: Nobuo Okada (Kyoto Univ. of Education), Panelists: Kazuhiko Kodama (Kyoto Univ.), Takao Hayashi (Momoyama Gakuen Univ.).

5. JACET Kyoto Seminar 2000
Date: Oct. 28-29, 2000
Place: Kyoto International Conference Hall
Theme: "English Dictionaries - Today and Tomorrow".

Invitational Lecturers: Yoshishiko Isegawa (Showa Women's College), Geoffrey Leech (Univ of Lancaster), Mitu Itari (NHK Newscaster).

Lecturers: Stephen Bullon (Perram Education), Sally Behmre (Oxford University Press), Patrick Gillard (Cambridge University Press), Kensei Sugiyama (Kobe Men. Univ. of Foreign Studies), Tokumi Kodama (Ritsumeikan Univ.), Shihito Sato (Kawasaki Gakuen Univ.).

6. Lecture Meeting (Oral Communication SIG)
Date: Nov. 7, 2000
Place: Temikawa Junior College
Dave Willia (Univ. of Birmingham), "Language Description and Language Teaching" (Yasuko Miyoshi)

【Chugoku/Shikoku Chapter Report】
The Annual Chapter Convention was held on June 4 at Shikoku University. Special features of the conference were, first, a workshop by Professor Junsaku Nakamura on "How to use on-line Corpus Data Base" and, second, a workshop/simposium by Takeshi Taji and Kaoru Isono on "Usefulness of Action Research." Participants benefited greatly from the workshops.

Two Lecture Meetings were held in the year 2000. One was by a Pakistani Canadian, Salma Jami, on "Anti-bias Education and Cooperative Learning," which was held at Hiroshima Kokusai Gakuen University on July 1. The other was given by the renowned Takao Suzuki, whose talk was entitled: "Let us aim at International English which is free from particular nationality or culture." He presented the lecture at Matsusaka University on January 9, 2001.

The Lodge and Study Gathering of the year was held on the coast of Seto Inland Sea in Uno. Two senior members of the chapter, Higuchi Nakamura and Aiko Notochahara gave lectures. Professor Nakamura talked about the "Future English Education in university" and participants benefited greatly from experience drawn from Professor Notochahara's 50-years in English education. (Iiro Numano)

【Kyushu/Okinawa Chapter Report】
As host of the annual nationwide conference, the millennium year was one of the busiest years in memory for the Kyushu-Okinawa Chapter. Preparations for the conference began early in the year and continued until the day before the conference. In keeping with a strong interest in English education in East Asia in Kyushu, a number of distinguished scholars from Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan were invited to participate in the conference, which ended with a fruitful symposium on various issues in English education in Japan, Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan. As the sponsor of the nationwide conference, the Chapter did not hold an annual conference in 2000; the annual conference will resume again in the fall of 2001.

Ties with Asia were also strengthened by the Chapter's local activities. In May, the Chapter, in cooperation with Kyushu-Okinawa Chapter of The Japan Association for the Study of Teaching English to Children (JASTEC), invited Dr. Park Mae-ran of Pukyong University (Pusan), as a guest lecturer. Dr. Park discussed various aspects of elementary school

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English education in Korea in a lecture entitled "Teaching English in Elementary Schools in Korea." The lecture was an excellent opportunity for Chapter members and others to learn first-hand about recent developments in South Korea.

The Chapter also strengthened the editorial procedures over the annual journal last year. The number of blind reviewers increased over previous years, thus ensuring that every paper could be read by at least two reviewers. The new procedures resulted in a significant improvement in the quality of the journal.

Relations with the Youngnam English Teachers Association (YETA), which is composed of teachers and researchers in the Southeastern region of the Republic of Korea, continued to strengthen. In June, Professor Suzuki Chitsuko of Kagasaki Junshin Catholic University was invited as a guest lecturer at YETA's spring conference and in October, Dr. Robert J. Fraser of Kagoshima University was invited as a guest lecturer at the fall conference. The Chapter invited Dr. Lee Hye-won of Korea Maritime University (Pusan) and president of YETA as the keynote speaker at the nationwide conference in November. Relations have also been strengthened overall in the past year by the publication of articles by Chapter members in YETA's journal and by YETA members in the Chapter's journal.

Taken together, successful completion of the nationwide conference, strengthening of relations with YETA and other Asian scholars, and improvements in the quality of the annual journal make for a productive year that laid the groundwork for continued success in 2001. Reports on the activities of the Chapter's three special interest groups—English Education in East Asia, ESP English for Special Purposes, and English and Computers—will be presented in the next issue of the Newsletter.

(Robert J. Fraser)

Reports from Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

[Chungkuk-Shikok]

<College English Education in Asia>

The group published its fourth volume of collected papers in April after a year's absence. This latest volume has two papers on India: "An observation of Indian English, particularly English spoken by Tamil," by Jiro Numano and the "Role of English in India and the relationship between English and Indian culture," by Fumiko Kondo, both from Hiroshima Kokusai Gakuen. The papers strongly suggest a new way of looking at English voices in outer circle (in D. Crystal's terms). Another paper is "A report of Training English teachers in China" by Yayoi Akagi and Marilyn Higgin. The group now represents by Professor Ikadauchi plans to publish in fifth volume.

Other Reports

Committee Reports:

The General Survey Committee Akira Miikami Toyo Women's College

JACET conducted nationwide surveys 20years ago and published 5 volume reports in 10 years. The surveys were informative and greatly contributed to the reform of English education in Japan. These studies, however, are outdated after reforms at many universities and colleges in Japan. JACET has decided that new surveys need to be conducted quickly.

The objectives of the surveys are:

1. To ascertain the current state of language education in Japan.
2. To consider the significance of language education in Japan.
3. To assess language teachers.
4. To consolidate the opinion of language teachers on language education.
5. To determine if gaps exist between what society needs and what language teachers offer.

Presentation:

Networked English Language Education at Waseda University

Michiko Nakano
Waseda University

Waseda University has been running cross-cultural distance language learning, cyber lectures and online-English Tutorials since 1999. This is a report concerning the nature of this networked English Language Learning.

The Cross-Cultural Distant Learning (CCDL)
project at Waseda recruited te~ch on from seveml universities from various locations throughout the world: Korea University (Korea), Kamagawa National University (Korea), De La Salle University (the Philippines), University of Melalay (Malaysia), University of Chulalongkorn (Thailand), Thammasat University (Thailand), National University of Singapore (Singapore), RELC (Singapore), Capital Normal University (China), Essex University (U.K.) and National Taoyuan Normal University (Taiwan). University of Edinburgh (U.K.), University of Hawaii at Hilo (U.S.A.) and University of Brussels (Brunei) are going to join us in 2001. During the presentation, the tasks assigned to the students were explained and some analysis of data was touched upon. For detail, please visit our Home Page: http://www.project.rnc.waseda.ac.jp/500f/ 

Next, I introduced five courses offered at Waseda in 2000. Dr Alan Davies at Edinburgh gave us 8 lectures on "Current Issues of Applied Linguistics" and Dr Hugh Trappes-Lomax also gave us 8 lectures on Sociolinguistics. Dr Ian Narey at Essex offered us 5 lectures on "Human Rights and Japanese Values." Dr Mike Long, Dr Dick Schmidt, and Dr Cathy Doughty gave us lectures on Second Language Acquisition in relation to recent research findings on Critical Period. Dr Jack Richards and Dr Bells at RELC also gave us lectures on Methodological issues. Korea University also offered 10 research reports by those who recently submitted their Ph.D.'s in America. These 10 lectures were announced to JACET members and we requested to share helpful lectures. We have uploaded handouts on our Home page: http://cjpl.lit.uoa.gr/waseda.ac.jp/500f/ 

Finally I talked about on-line English Tutorials which are based on the Video-Conferencing System. In 2000, about 3000 Waseda students participated in this system. One day is assigned for every student. Teachers conduct their English speaking lessons on-line. The students were grouped according to SST test results. The method of teaching was explained during my presentation.

Notices

AIIA 2002 Singapore
December 16-21, 2002, Singapore
13th World Congress of Applied Linguistics
Abstract submission deadline: August 31, 2001

Please register on the website.
Early Bird Registration Deadline: July 31, 2001
Website: http://www.aillai2002.org
Contact: AIIA 2002 Conference Secretariat
E-mail: ctnpl@sinnet.com.sg

Positions Available

Sungaidai University
Position: Professor or Associate Professor
Courses: English courses and seminars
Faculty: of Cultural Information Resources
Beginning Date: April 1st, 2002
Deadline: May 7, 2002
Inquiries: Bunko Jicho Gakubu Kyomsaka
Sungaidai University
618 Aza, Hanno-shi, Saitama-ken 357-8555
Tel: 0429-72-1311
Fax: 0429-72-1179

Gakushuin University
Position: EFL teacher for a full-time, tenured faculty position
Beginning Date: April 2002
Deadline: June 30, 2001
Inquiries: Recruitment, Foreign Language Teaching and Research Centre, Gakushuin University, Mejiro 1-5-1, Toshima-ku, Tokyo 171-8558, Japan
Please refer to the Gakushuin home page for further information.

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